March 12, 2023 | Pastor Keith Krell
Nehemiah 9:1-37 | "Remember Your Roots"

Scripture References
Nehemiah 9:1–37
Exodus 15:1–27; 34:6–7
Psalm 78:1–72
Lamentations 3:21–24
Luke 18:9–14
Hebrews 4:14–16
Ephesians 2:4–10

Study Questions
1. Why is confession of sin so important to the spiritual life? What does your struggle with confession reveal about the condition of your heart? When is the last time you prayed that the Lord would break your heart over your sin? Read Psalm 139:23–24. Will you make these verses part of your daily prayers?

2. What is the proper place of biblical confession in the local church? What guidelines should govern the public confession of sin? In what sense and to what degree should we confess the sins of our fathers (i.e., spiritual predecessors)? What might we confess? How can God consider us culpable for sins committed by others?

3. How did the Israelites talk about their sin (see 9:16, 26, 29, and 30)? How do you speak of your sin? In what ways have you justified your sin or taken it lightly? How has the holiness, greatness, and glory of God diminished in your mind and heart? How has the biblical understanding of sin been distorted in our day? What impact has this had among God's people?

4. During the course of your Christian life, which aspects of God's character have been most meaningful? In what specific ways has God been faithful and compassionate to you? In what practical ways can you grow in your knowledge and experience of God's character?

5. What mighty acts have you witnessed God do in your life? How has your story demonstrated God's amazing grace and mercy? What is most meaningful to you about the prayer in this chapter? Read Psalm 78 and Acts 7. How do these historical summaries/prayers challenge you?

Recommended Reading
J. I. Packer, *Knowing God* (InterVarsity, 1973)
Christopher J. H. Wright, *The Mission of God's People* (Zondervan, 2010)
Ann Spangler, *Praying the Names of God* (Zondervan, 2004)
Donald S. Whitney, *Praying the Bible* (Crossway, 2015)